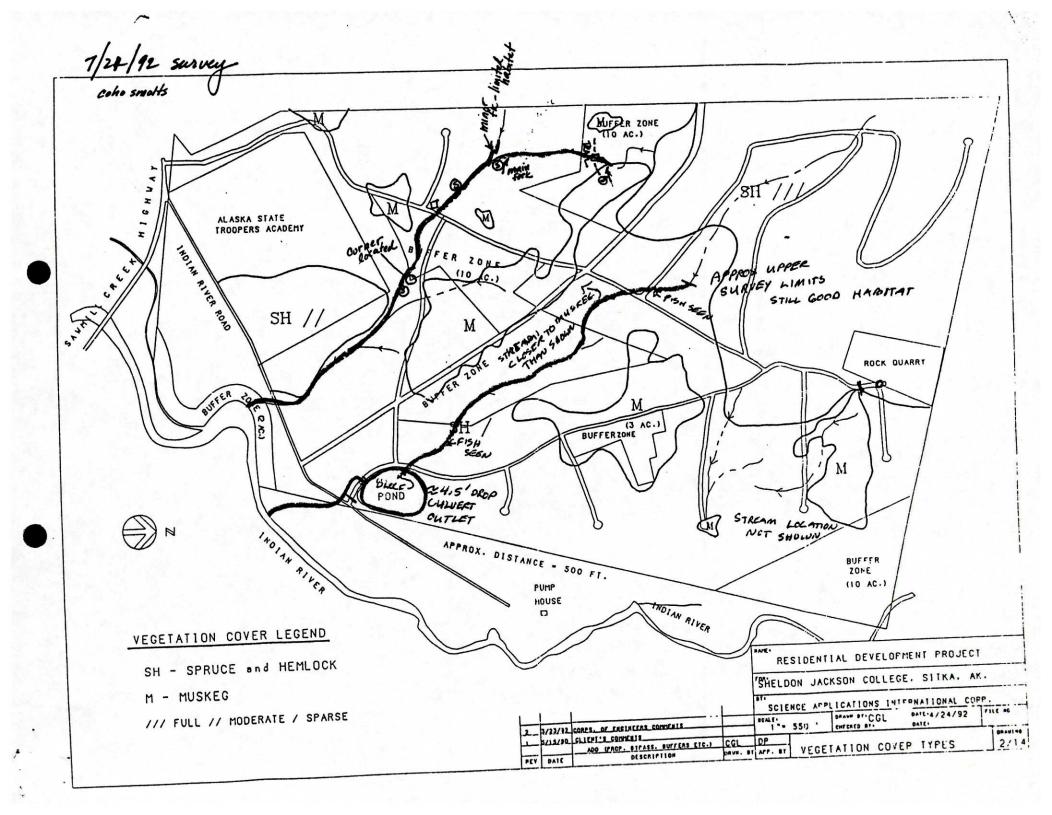
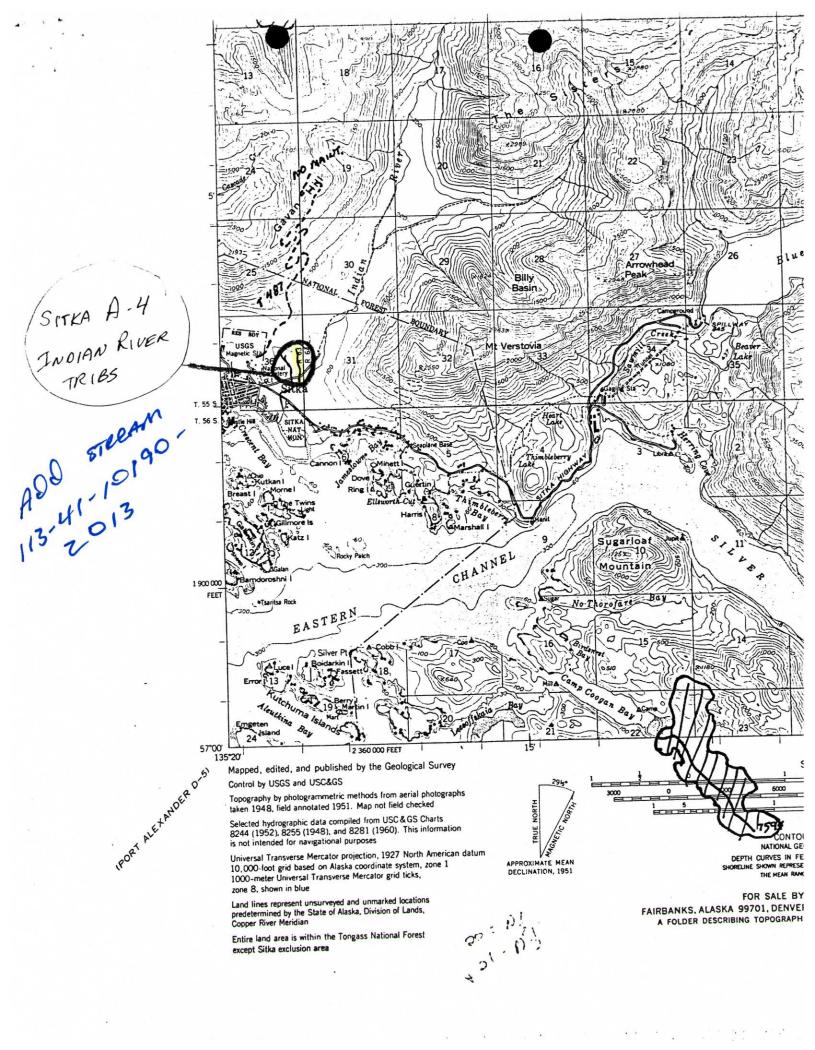
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## MEMORANDUM State of Alask

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

FISH & GAME

TO: Ed Weise

Habitat Biologist

Anchorage

**DATE:** May 13, 1993

MAY 1 9 1993

FILE NO .:

REGION II ABITAT AND RESTORATION DIVISION

THRU:

**TELEPHONE NO.:** 747-5828

SUBJECT: Indian River Tributaries

FROM: Dave Hardy

Area Biologist

Habitat & Restoration Division

Sitka Office

As requested, on May 10-11 I trapped and dipnetted rearing coho salmon and Dolly Varden char in the two tributaries to the Indian River shown on the attached map.

For the western most creek I set two traps overnight, in the first 200 yards above the road. Trap one yielded 9 coho and 14 Dolly Varden while trap two had 6 coho and 7 Dollies. I then hiked up this stream and sampled upstream reaches with a dip net. The uppermost coho fry captured was about 4,000 feet upstream from where this tributary joins the Indian River.

For the eastern creek I fished 4 traps overnight. Trap 3 was set in a pool just below the pond outlet culvert and yielded 2 coho and 17 Dollies. Traps 4, 5, and 6 were upstream of the culvert block and yielded 8 Dollies, 7 Dollies, and one Dolly/one coho respectively. The coho was a large (3 1/2 - 4") smolt which may have reared for more than one year in this tributary.

All traps were set between 3:45-4:15 pm on 5/10/93 and retrieved between 9:00-9:30 am on 5/11/93. Salmon eggs were used as bait.

Because of the perched culvert on the eastern tributary I expected very low densities of coho fry above it. I trapped holding pools within the first 100 yards above it in order to have the greatest potential to capture outmigrating smolt. Although most cohos outmigrate after one year in fresh water, some may remain in freshwater as long as five years. This extreme has been documented by scale samples from the Yakutat area. It is also possible that one or two pairs of adult coho may have passed the perched culvert during very high fall flows to spawn upstream.

As you know this fish passage problem is scheduled to be remedied this summer, and fall 1993 coho migrants should be able to easily pass upstream. Coho rearing densities will hopefully return to normal in this tributary within a few years thereafter.

Attachment.

Lana Shea cc:

Jim DiGennaro

Marlene Campbell

Frank Rue Randy Bayliss Kevin Morgan

Bill Coltharp Bill Hughes

